



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KC MAN ARRESTED ON BANK ROBBERY CHARGE

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Kansas City, Mo., man had his initial appearance in federal court today after being charged with robbing a US Bank last week in Kansas City.

Dennis Watson, 51, of Kansas City, appeared before U.S. Magistrate Judge Sarah W. Hays this afternoon on a bank robbery charge contained in a criminal complaint that was filed in federal court on May 27, 2005.

The criminal complaint alleges that on May 27, 2005, **Watson** took by means of force, violence and intimidation approximately \$3,800 from the US Bank located at 1125 Grand Ave., in Kansas City. **Watson** was arrested on May 28, 2005.

According to an affidavit filed in support of the criminal complaint, **Watson** entered the US Bank at approximately 9 a.m. carrying American Express Traveler's Checks. As he entered the bank, **Watson** immediately approached a teller, the affidavit states, and said, "Give me all the money! I want all the money!"

The teller activated a silent bank robbery alarm and then gave **Watson** money from his teller drawer. **Watson** stuffed several bundles of money in the pockets of his shorts and then turned and walked out of the bank.

The teller described the bandit as a black male, between five-feet-nine and-11 inches tall and weighing between 230 to 240 pounds. The teller estimated that the bandit was between 40 and 45 years old and indicated that he had facial hair around his mouth and chin and that he was wearing a dirty light grey T-shirt and dark blue shorts.

During the course of the investigation, it was determined that a man matching the bandit's description had entered the bank on May 26, 2005, the day prior to the bank robbery, and cashed a \$100 American Express Traveler's Check. The American Express Traveler's

Check, recovered by bank employees, contained both **Watson's** name and driver's license number, the affidavit states.

Additionally, law enforcement officers learned that **Watson**, who matched the bank robber's description, also was arrested for patronizing prostitution on May 25, 2005. At the time of that arrest, a photograph was taken of **Watson**. The bank employees later identified the man in the photograph as the bandit involved in the robbery of the US Bank on May 27, 2005, the affidavit alleges.

The photograph also was compared to the bank's security video tape that showed **Watson** cashing the American Express Traveler's Check on May 26, 2005, and robbing the bank on May 27, 2005, the affidavit alleges.

Graves cautioned that the charge contained in the criminal complaint is simply an accusation, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charge must be presented to a federal grand jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney David Ketchmark. The case was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow